Restorative Practices in Asheville and Buncombe County: Scope and Purpose

Restorative Practices is a system of principles and processes that build and sustain a culture of respect, responsibility, and accountability. This is achieved through emphasizing the importance of trusting relationships as central to building community and repairing relationships/restoring community when harm has occurred.



Training Series

Open to all; restorative practices trainings are offered on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Based on a partnership between Buncombe County Schools, Asheville City Schools and United Way of Asheville and Buncombe County, these trainings are offered for free to all school faculty and staff, community partners, community members and parents/guardians.

- 2-Day Intro to Restorative Practices and Proactive Circles: Overview of building a
 restorative school community by introducing restorative principles and concepts,
 community building practices, and circle design.
- 2-Day Responsive Practices (Repairing Harm and Restoring Community): Once the
 initial relationship-building, proactive components of restorative practices are in place,
 this training focuses on the development of classroom and school-wide relational &
 restorative accountability systems and skill building for responding to minor to
 medium level conflicts and repairing harm. Prerequisite: 2-Day Intro to RP Training
- <u>1-Day Formal Conferencing</u>: This training provides an introduction and experiential practice with formal restorative conferencing utilized for high-level incidents of situations that have caused a significant level of harm in the community. *Prerequisites:* 2-Day Intro to RP and 2-Day Responsive Trainings

Introduction to Restorative Practices Training for Youth

- 1-Day Training offered once per semester for middle school and high school youth.
- Youth leadership is an essential component of Restorative Practices implementation in schools and community organizations. Success is dependent on working with the students to create a strong positive and relational environment for all members of the community. This initial training provides a general overview of what Restorative Practices are, and works with students to build their capacity to support and facilitate proactive, relationship-building activities and community circles in their classrooms and throughout their school.

Ongoing Coaching and Support Opportunities

- <u>Community of Practice Sessions</u>: These sessions are open to all who have attended the Intro to RP training; we share with one another highlights and challenges of our own use of the practices and problem-solve together in small groups.
- <u>School-based Implementation Coaching</u>: Kerri Berkowitz, Restorative Practices Coach and Consultant from Center for Relational Practices, provides ongoing restorative practices coaching sessions for select schools.

Training of Trainers (TOT) Program

- The Training of Trainers (TOT) course features an individualized training plan per participant and includes observation, practice, coaching, modeling and co-facilitation.
- Trainers will learn to provide on-the-ground coaching and support for staff in your buildings / at your organizations who are new to facilitating circles. Trainers will provide smaller introductory trainings for colleagues based on elements of Restorative Practices.
- The culmination of the program is co-facilitating an Intro to RP training with other members of the Training of Trainers cohort.
- A new Training of Trainers cohort begins every summer.

Additional Offerings:

 If you are interested trainings that are tailored for your specific school or organization, contact kyle.garrett@unitedwayabc.org to get connected with the Center for Relational Practices in order to explore the available options and costs involved.